

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAJ-01 SAM-01 ACDA-19 EB-11

OMB-01 TRSE-00 NIC-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /135 W
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O R 281745Z JUL 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3715

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1259

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, GE

SUBJECT: GDR HARASSMENT ON TRANSIT ROUTES CONTINUES

REF: BERLIN 1257

1. GDR HARRASSMENT ON TRANSIT ROUTES CONTINUED THROUGH JULY 27-28 WEEKEND. ON SATURDAY, 6 TRAVELERS WERE STOPPED AND QUESTIONED. AS OF LATE AFTERNOON (I.E. 5 P.M.) TOTAL FOR SUNDAY WAS 3. SINCE HARRASSMENT BEGAN JULY 25, APPROXIMATELY 19 PERSON ARE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN DELAYED AND QUESTIONED FOR PERIODS UP TO 1 1/2 HRS ABOUT POSSIBLE AFFILIATION WITH FEA. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THERE WERE NO BACKUPS AT CROSSING POINTS SUNDAY DESPITE FACT THAT AT LEAST AT ONE CROSSING POINT (HIRSCHBERG) GDR AUTHORITIES ASKED EVERY CAR IF THE PASSENGERS BELONGED TO FEA.

2. FIGURES ON INCIDENTS ARE NOT PRECISE AND DUPLICATION IS POSSIBLE GIVEN NUMBER OF SOURCES PROVIDING INFORMATION.

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HOWEVER, IT IS EQUALLY LIKELY THAT TOTALS UNDERESTIMATE ACTUAL

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS BECAUSE SOME OF THOSE STOPPED MAY NOT HAVE WANTED TO TAKE TIME TO REPORT INCIDENTS UPON ENTERING FRG OR WEST BERLIN.

3. MEDIA CONTINUE RESTRAINED COVERAGE OF HARRASSMENT. WELT AM SONNTAG, JULY 28, CARRIED FRONTPAGE STORY THAT U.S. HAD INFORMED GDR THAT AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS, SCHEDULED TO BE SIGNED JULY 29, WOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL EAST GERMANS STOPPED HARRASSMENT. ARTICLE CLAIMED FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER RECEIVED ASSURANCE OF U.S. DECISION DURING VISIT TO SAN CLEMENTE. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND JULY 28 CONTINUED TO CONFINE ITSELF TO INDIRECT TREATMENT OF FEA ESTABLISHMENT, QUOTING COMMENTARIES OF PREVIOUS DAY IN BULGARIAN PRESS AND PRAVDA. LATTER REHEARSED LINE THAT IF FRG PERSISTED WITH ESTABLISHMENT, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO TAKE COUNTERMEASURES TO PROTEST SOVIET AND GDR INTERESTS, AND GDR WOULD NOT PERMIT TRANSPORT OF PERSONNEL AND MATERIAL OF AGENCY ON TRANSIT ROUTES OF GDR.KLEIN

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